REMARKS

By the present amendment, claim 19 has been rewritten in an independent format whereby it is now believed to be in a condition for allowance. Claims 1-55 are pending in the application.[1]

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-18, 20-23, 26-33, 35-40, 42-45, 47-49 and 51- 55 have been rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,177,860 to Cromer in combination with U.S. Patent No. 5,846,064 to Cowan. Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-18, 20-23, 26-33, 35-40, 42-45, 47-49 and 51- 55 have also been rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,177,860 to Cromer in combination with U.S. Patent No. 6,064,649 to Johnston. Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-18, 20-23, 26-33, 35-40, 42-45, 47-49 and 51- 55 have further been rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,177,860 to Cromer in combination with U.S. Patent No. 5,846,064 to Cowan or U.S. Patent No. 6,064,649 to Johnston, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,539,394 to Cato.

Cromer is directed towards a method of loading an operating system and other control programs onto general purpose hardware computers to tailor each computer for an application such as text processing, graphic arts, scientific calculation, financial accounting, a teller work station, a bank officer work station, point of sale, process control, internet or other database access communication.[2] In Cromer, the electronic device 410 has an RFID module 411 mounted on the circuit card 413 and wired to a connector 415. When the electronic device 410 is packed in a carton (as it will be received in a shipment from the manufacturer), the connector 415 is accessible through access flap 421 of the carton. In this manner, a hand-held RFID tag interrogator 419 can be wired to a connector plug 423, and the connector plug 423 mated with the connector 415 through the access flap 421. When the still-packaged computer arrives at the customer company's receiving dock, the access flap 421 is opened, the plug 423

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[1]The allowance of claims 8, 16, 24, 41, and 50, and the indicated allowability of claim 19 is noted with appreciation.

[2]Cromer also notes that, "[i]n addition, each computer must be configured with characteristics unique to the operator or workstation to which the computer will be assigned" and that examples are "the users name, network configuration parameters, and the identity of the programs that will be needed in the workstation of each computer."

is connected to the connector 415, and a copy of the end user profile and the program image profile is written to the RFID module 411.[3]

In the background section of the Cromer patent, the following statements regarding prior art attempts at configuring a computer operating system from a central location:

> Patent application Ser. No. 08/971,386 of common assignee describes a method and apparatus for allowing the task of configuring the computer operating system and installing the programs to be controlled from a central location. This avoids an inconvenient and daunting task for a person who is not familiar with the specific computer and who has little experience in deciphering program installation instructions. The cost of the apparatus was significant however due to the need for an antenna to be installed as part of the apparatus and connected to an RFID chip which loaded the serial number, program image profile and user information in a dual ported electronic non-volatile memory identification tag. The tag has a wireless memory interface for radio frequency access without the need for AC power and a standard parallel or serial interface to the computer's bus for normal access while the computer is running under power. The dual ported RFID tag wireless radio frequency (RF) interface derives its own power from an RF signal that transmits digital program profile and configuration information to the identification tag as the computer is in transit in its shipping carton on a conveyor for example. The ferrite or air wound antenna requires well known tuning and sensitivity adjustments and accordingly is relatively

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[3]During this same RF access to the RFID module 411, address and hardware configuration data is also read.

When the computer arrives at its use location (*e.g.*, the bank branch of a pretermined teller window) it is unpacked, connected to the LAN, printers etc. and plugged in to AC power. The workstation computer is then either powered up by the installer, the user or the server, and "woken up" for configuration and pre-loading. Upon request from the server, the computer reads the information in the RFID tag (stored on the receiving dock) and sends this information to the server. The server responds by sending software configuration data to the workstation. The necessary programs (*e.g.*, operating system routines, device drivers, application programs and user data) are sent to and installed on the workstation computer being deployed. The server also writes network configuration information, for example IP Address, to the RFID tag.

> expensive to manufacture and complex to assemble into the electronic device as compared with the instant invention.[4]

Cromer boasts that "[t]hese problems of cost and complexity are reduced substantially by this invention which has the advantage that information needed to configure a computer for implementing a workstation is directly loaded onto an RFID chip memory by means of a more simple wire and plug connection made through an access flap in the carton of a fully packaged general purpose computer or other electronic device as it is being received at a receiving dock from a warehouse or a queue after final test without unpacking and applying power to the device."[5]

Thus, in this situation, a wireless download is not a "non-disclosed" or "non-preferred" or "less-than-optimal" option, it is the download design that the Cromer device is specifically and expressly invented to avoid. Thus, the Cromer would not have reasonably suggested to one of ordinary skill in the art that its wired connection should be replaced with a wireless connection.

The Examiner notes that Cowan teaches the disadvantages of a wired connection. Specifically, Cowan sets forth:

> One known method for updating software in a mobile device is by physically connecting the mobile device to a computer capable of upgrading the software. In order to upgrade software using this technique it is typically necessary to employ one or more service technicians to assist in connecting the mobile device to the computer with a cable or the like and executing the software upgrade routine. This results in down time for the mobile device and related service costs.[6]

The combined teachings of Cowan and Cromer simply convey that initial configurations should be made with wired connections and that subsequent software upgrades (after delivery of the mobile device) can be made wirelessly. It is noted that the problem attempted to be solved by Cowan (calling a service technician) is already solved by Cromer in that the wired transfer is made as the computer is being received

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[4]Cromer, column 1, line 49 through column 2, line 6.

[5]Cromer, column 2, lines 9 - 18.

[6]Cowan, column 1, line 65 through column 2, line 6.

at a receiving dock from a warehouse. Thus, Cowan does nothing to cure the shortcomings of the Cromer patent.

Johnston discloses a network interface card for providing an interface between a host and a wireless ATM -based communication network. Nothing in the prior art suggests that the Cromer RFID would be a suitable interface. Cato is directed towards "scanning" a whole cart of groceries without having to remove each item and scan it individually. To this end, the items are each tagged with a monolithic identification chip 10 having a processor 41, a memory 43, a transceiver 45, and antenna 47. The chips 10 receive their initial identity and product data from a programmer 51 which transmits the corresponding signals through an antenna 53. Thus, Johnson and/or Cato do nothing to remove the shortcomings of the Cromer patent.

Moreover, even if the Cromer wired connection was replaced with a wireless connection, this would not create the claimed invention. The present invention is directed towards a wireless communication device destined for operation in a particular wireless network and, to this end, comprises **a transceiver for communicating in the wireless network** and a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information. This transceiver is separate and apart from any component of the passive tag and, in fact, the transceiver is non-operation when the passive tag is wirelessly receiving the initial configuration information from an external source. Cromer, which is directed towards general purpose hardware computers for applications such as text processing, graphic arts, scientific calculation, financial accounting, a teller work station, a bank officer work station, point of sale, process control, internet or other database access communication. This computer itself would not include a transceiver for communicating in any wireless network.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, this application is now believed to be in a condition for allowance and an early action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device destined for operation in a particular wireless network, comprising:

a transceiver for communicating in the wireless network;

a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information including network communication parameters corresponding to this particular wireless network;

a passive tag for wirelessly receiving the initial configuration information from an external source and storing the initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory at a time when the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode; and

an interface for enabling the processor to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless communication device is in an operational mode and thereby allowing operation in the wireless network by drawing upon the initial configuration information.

2. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device destined for operation in a particular wireless network, comprising:

a transceiver for communicating in the wireless network;

a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information including network communication parameters corresponding to this particular wireless network;

a passive tag for wirelessly receiving the initial configuration information from an external source and storing the initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory at a time when the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode; and

an interface for enabling the processor to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless communication device is in an operational mode and thereby allowing operation in the wireless network by drawing upon the initial configuration information,

wherein the passive tag comprises an antenna for receiving a radio frequency (RF) signal with the initial configuration information modulated thereon, and a decoder/demodulator for demodulating the RF signal and decoding the initial configuration information therefrom.

3. (Original) The wireless communication device of claim 2, wherein the passive tag derives power from the RF signal and provides the derived power to the decoder/demodulator and the memory.

4. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device comprising:

a transceiver for communicating in a wireless network;

a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information;

a passive tag for wirelessly receiving the initial configuration information from an external source and storing the initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory at a time when the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode; and

an interface for enabling the processor to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless communication device is in an operational mode;

wherein the initial configuration information comprises at least one of a network address and a network identification for the wireless communication device.

5. (Original) The wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication device is a mobile terminal.

6. (Original) The wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication device is an access point.

7. (Original) The wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication device is non-operational by virtue of the processor being in a powered down state.

8. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device destined for operation in a particular wireless network, comprising:

a transceiver for communicating in the wireless network;

a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information including network communication parameters corresponding to this particular wireless network;

a passive tag for wirelessly receiving the initial configuration information from an external source and storing the initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory

at a time when the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode; and

an interface for enabling the processor to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless communication device is in an operational mode and thereby allowing operation in the wireless network by drawing upon the initial configuration information,

wherein the wireless communication device is non-operational by virtue of being unassembled.

9. (Previously Presented) A method for use in relation to a wireless communication device destined for operation in a particular network, the device including a transceiver for communicating in the wireless network, a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information including network communication parameters corresponding to this particular wireless network, and a passive tag, the method comprising the step of:

wirelessly transmitting the initial configuration information from a source external to the wireless communication device so as to be received by the passive tag and stored in a non-volatile memory within the passive tag while the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode;

interfacing the processor with passive tag to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless device is in an operational mode; and

operating in the wireless network by drawing upon the initial configuration information.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for use in relation to a wireless communication device destined for operation in a particular network, the device including a transceiver for communicating in the wireless network, a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information including network communication parameters corresponding to this particular wireless network, and a passive tag, the method comprising the step of:

transmitting the initial configuration information from a source external to the wireless communication device so as to be received by the passive tag and stored in a non-volatile memory within the passive tag while the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode;

interfacing the processor with passive tag to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless device is in an operational mode; and

operating in the wireless network by drawing upon the initial configuration information,

wherein the passive tag comprises an antenna for receiving a radio frequency (RF) signal transmitted during the transmitting step with the initial configuration information modulated thereon, and a decoder/demodulator for demodulating the RF signal and decoding the initial configuration information therefrom.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of the passive tag deriving power from the RF signal and providing the derived power to the decoder/demodulator and the memory.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for use in relation to a wireless communication device including a transceiver for communicating in a wireless network, a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information, and a passive tag, the method comprising the step of:

wirelessly transmitting the initial configuration information from a source external to the wireless communication device so as to be received by the passive tag and stored in a non-volatile memory within the passive tag while the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode;

wherein the initial configuration information comprises at least one of a network address and a network identification for the wireless communication device.

13. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the wireless communication device is a mobile terminal.

14. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the wireless communication device is an access point.

15. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the wireless communication device is non-operational by virtue of the processor being in a powered down state.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for use in relation to a wireless communication device destined for operation in a particular network, the device including a transceiver for communicating in the wireless network, a processor for

controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information including network communication parameters corresponding to this particular wireless network, and a passive tag, the method comprising the step of:

transmitting the initial configuration information from a source external to the wireless communication device so as to be received by the passive tag and stored in a non-volatile memory within the passive tag while the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode;

interfacing the processor with passive tag to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless device is in an operational mode; and

operating in the wireless network by drawing upon the initial configuration information,

wherein the wireless communication device is non-operational by virtue of being unassembled.

17. (Previously Presented) A method of initially configuring the wireless communication device of claim 1, said method comprising the steps of:

wirelessly transmitting the initial configuration information from a source external to the wireless communication device;

receiving the initial configuration information by the passive tag and storing the initial configuration information in the non-volatile memory;

accessing the initial configuration information stored in the memory; and

controlling operations of the transceiver based on the initial configuration information.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 17, wherein the processor is in a powered-down state during the transmitting and receiving steps.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of initially configuring <u>a</u> ~~the~~ wireless communication device ~~of claim 1~~ <u>destined for operation in a particular wireless network, the device comprising a transceiver for communicating in the wireless network, a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information including network communication parameters corresponding to this particular wireless network, a passive tag for wirelessly receiving the initial configuration information from an external source and storing the initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory at a time when the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode, and an interface for enabling the processor to access the</u>

initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless communication device is in an operational mode and thereby allowing operation in the wireless network by drawing upon the initial configuration information; said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting the initial configuration information from a source external to the wireless communication device;

receiving the initial configuration information by the passive tag and storing the initial configuration information in the non-volatile memory;

accessing the initial configuration information stored in the memory; and

controlling operations of the transceiver based on the initial configuration information,

wherein the wireless communication device is unassembled during the transmitting and receiving steps.

20. (Previously Presented) A method of initially configuring a wireless communication device, the device comprising a transceiver for communicating in a wireless network; a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based on initial configuration information; a passive tag for receiving the initial configuration information from an external source and storing the initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory at a time when the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode; and an interface for enabling the processor to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless communication device is in an operational mode, said method comprising the steps of:

wirelessly transmitting the initial configuration information from a source external to the wireless communication device;

receiving the initial configuration information by the passive tag and storing the initial configuration information in the non-volatile memory;

accessing the initial configuration information stored in the memory; and

controlling operations of the transceiver based on the initial configuration information;

wherein said transmitting step comprises transmitting at least one of a network address and a network identification for the wireless communication device.

21. (Previously Presented) A method of configuring and operating a wireless communication device for a particular wireless network, said method comprising:

manufacturing a plurality of wireless communication devices and storing them in an inventory, each of the devices having a transceiver for communicating in a wireless network, a processor, and a passive tag;

retrieving one of the wireless communication devices from the inventory when a request is received and the particular wireless network has been identified;

conveying initial configuration information to the passive tag of the retrieved wireless communication device, wherein the initial configuration information includes network communication parameters corresponding to said particular wireless network;

storing the conveyed initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory;

interfacing the processor of the retrieved wireless communication device with its passive tag to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory; and

controlling operation of the transceiver of the retrieved wireless communication device based upon the initial configuration information,

wherein the conveying step is performed wirelessly.

22. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 21, wherein the conveying and storing steps are performed when the processor is in a non-operational mode.

23. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 21, wherein the wireless communication devices stored in the inventory are each in packaging, and wherein the packaging is not removed to perform the conveying and storing steps.

24. (Previously Presented) A method of configuring and operating a wireless communication device for a particular wireless network, said method comprising:

manufacturing a plurality of wireless communication devices and storing them in an inventory, each of the devices having a transceiver for communicating in a wireless network, a processor, and a passive tag;

retrieving one of the wireless communication devices from the inventory when a request is received and the particular wireless network has been identified;

conveying initial configuration information to the passive tag of the retrieved wireless communication device, wherein the initial configuration information includes network communication parameters corresponding to said particular wireless network;

storing the conveyed initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory;

interfacing the processor of the retrieved wireless communication device with its passive tag to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory; and

controlling operation of the transceiver of the retrieved wireless communication device based upon the initial configuration information,

wherein the wireless communication devices stored in the inventory are not fully assembled, and wherein the conveying and storing steps are performed while the retrieved wireless communication device is not fully assembled.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 21, wherein conveying step is wirelessly performed by conveying a radio frequency (RF) signal with the initial configuration information modulated thereon to the passive tag, demodulating the RF signal, and decoding the initial configuration information therefrom.

27. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 26, wherein the conveying step further comprises deriving power from the RF signal and providing the derived power to the decoder/demodulator and the memory.

28. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 21, wherein the initial configuration information comprises a serial number, network identification, network address, passwords, encryption keys, and/or RF configuration data.

29. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 21, wherein the communication parameters comprise a network address and/or a network identifier.

30. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device destined for operation in a particular wireless network, comprising:

a transceiver for communicating in the wireless network;

a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver;

a passive tag for receiving the initial configuration information from an external source and storing the initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory at a time when the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode, wherein the initial configuration comprises information necessary to locate and communicate with a certain server in order to download certain software therefrom; and

an interface for enabling the processor to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless communication device is in an operational mode;

wherein the processor is programmed to locate and communicate with the server via the initial configuration information and to direct downloading of said software from the server, thereby allowing operation in the wireless network by drawing upon the downloaded software.

wherein the passive tag wirelessly receives the initial configuration information.

31. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device as set forth in claim 30, wherein the server is an FTP server.

32. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device as set forth in claim 31, wherein the FTP server is part of the destined-for wireless network.

33. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device as set forth in claim 31, wherein the FTP server is controlled by the manufacturer of the wireless communication devices.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device as set forth in claim 30, wherein the passive tag comprises an antenna for receiving a radio frequency (RF) signal with the initial configuration information modulated thereon and a decoder/demodulator for demodulating the RF signal and decoding the initial configuration information therefrom.

36. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device as set forth in claim 35, wherein the passive tag derives power from the RF signal and provides the derived power to the decoder/demodulator and the memory.

37. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device as set forth in claim 30, wherein the software package includes network communication parameters corresponding to said particular wireless network.

38. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device as set forth in claim 30, wherein the wireless communication device is a mobile terminal.

39. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device as set forth in claim 31, wherein the wireless communication device is an access point.

40. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device as set forth in claim 31, wherein the wireless communication device is non-operational by virtue of the processor being in a powered-down state.

41. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device destined for operation in a particular wireless network, comprising:

a transceiver for communicating in the wireless network;

a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver;

a passive tag for receiving the initial configuration information from an external source and storing the initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory at a time when the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode, wherein the initial configuration comprises information necessary to locate and communicate with a certain server in order to download certain software therefrom; and

an interface for enabling the processor to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless communication device is in an operational mode;

wherein the processor is programmed to locate and communicate with the server via the initial configuration information and to direct downloading of said software from the server, thereby allowing operation in the wireless network by drawing upon the downloaded software,

wherein the wireless communication device is non-operational by virtue of being unassembled.

42. (Previously Presented) A method of configuring and operating a wireless communication device in a particular wireless network, said method comprising:

manufacturing a plurality of wireless communication devices and storing them in an inventory, each of the devices having a transceiver for communicating in a wireless network, a processor, and a passive tag;

retrieving one of the wireless communication devices from the inventory when a request is received and the particular wireless network has been determined;

conveying initial configuration information to the passive tag of the retrieved wireless communication device, wherein the initial configuration information includes data necessary to locate and communicate with a selected server;

storing the conveyed initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory,

interfacing the processor of the retrieved wireless communication device with its passive tag to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory so that the processor can locate the selected server;

communicating with the server, via the processor, and downloading a software package to the processor; and

controlling operation of the transceiver of the retrieved wireless communication device based upon the downloaded package,

wherein the conveying step is performed wirelessly.

43. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 42, wherein the server is an FTP server.

44. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 43, wherein the FTP server is on said particular wireless network.

45. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 43, wherein the FTP server is controlled by the manufacturer of the wireless communication devices.

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 42, wherein the conveying step is wirelessly performed by conveying a radio frequency (RF) signal with the initial configuration information modulated thereon to the passive tag, demodulating the RF signal, and decoding the initial configuration information therefrom.

48. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 47, wherein the conveying step further comprises deriving power from the RF signal and providing the derived power to the decoder/demodulator and the memory.

49. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 42, wherein the wireless communication devices stored in the inventory are each in packaging, and wherein the packaging is not removed to perform the conveying and storing steps.

50. (Previously Presented) A method of configuring and operating a wireless communication device in a particular wireless network, said method comprising:

manufacturing a plurality of wireless communication devices and storing them in an inventory, each of the devices having a transceiver for communicating in a wireless network, a processor, and a passive tag;

retrieving one of the wireless communication devices from the inventory when a request is received and the particular wireless network has been determined;

conveying initial configuration information to the passive tag of the retrieved wireless communication device, wherein the initial configuration information includes data necessary to locate and communicate with a selected server;

storing the conveyed initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory,

interfacing the processor of the retrieved wireless communication device with its

passive tag to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory so that the processor can locate the selected server;

communicating with the server, via the processor, and downloading a software package to the processor; and

controlling operation of the transceiver of the retrieved wireless communication device based upon the downloaded package,

wherein the wireless communication devices stored in the inventory are not fully assembled, and wherein the conveying and storing steps are performed while the retrieved wireless communication device is not fully assembled.

51. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication device, destined for operation in a particular wireless network, comprising:

a transceiver for communicating in the wireless network;

a processor for controlling operations of the transceiver based upon communication parameters corresponding to the particular wireless network;

a passive tag for wirelessly receiving the initial configuration information from an external source and storing the initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory at a time when the wireless communication device is otherwise in a non-operational mode; and

an interface for enabling the processor to access the initial configuration information stored in the memory when the wireless communication device is in an operational mode and thereby allowing operation in the wireless network by drawing upon the initial configuration information;

wherein the initial configuration information comprises the network communication parameters or information allowing downloading of software containing the network communication parameters.

52. (Previously Presented) A method of configuring and operating a wireless communication device in a particular wireless network, said method comprising:

manufacturing a plurality of wireless communication devices and storing them in an inventory, each of the devices having a transceiver for communicating in a wireless network, a processor, and a passive tag;

retrieving one of the wireless communication devices from the inventory when a request is received and the particular wireless network has been determined;

wirelessly conveying initial configuration information to the passive tag of the retrieved wireless communication device;

storing the conveyed initial configuration information in a non-volatile memory;

interfacing the processor of the retrieved wireless communication device with its passive tag to wirelessly convey the initial configuration information stored in the memory to the processor;

determining network communication parameters from this initial configuration information; and

controlling operation of the transceiver of the retrieved wireless communication device based upon the network communication parameters.

53. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 52, wherein the initial configuration information includes the network communication parameters.

54. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 52, wherein the initial configuration information comprises information allowing downloading of software containing the network communication parameters, and wherein the determining step comprises downloading the software to the processor.

55. (Previously Presented) A method as set forth in claim 54, wherein the initial configuration information allows the processor to locate a selected server and communicate therewith, wherein the software is available on such selected server, and wherein said downloading step comprises transmitting the software from the server to the processor.

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